### Notes from CIE Brief February, 2011 – Focus on ACS

### • Hansen Center

- The Hansen Center is now open for FRG meetings and Unit Events.
- It is a non-fee service facility
- You may bring food items for a \$50 refundable deposit
- o Contact 502-624-1838 to reserve

### LTG Freakley

- o Families are unaware of programs that are available to them.
- Single Soldiers
  - need help in reaching out to Soldiers and Families to let them know what opportunities and activities are available to them
- Armor School is on track to move down to Fort Benning
  - 300 employees have chosen to stay at Fort Knox and not leave with the Armor School.
  - About 700 homes currently occupied by Armor School Families will become vacant
    - This means there will be about 700 homes available to move into on Post
- o The Museum is closed for updating and will be re-opened in April
  - It is being redone to tell the story of Fort Knox and the Units at Fort Knox
- New Dental Clinic is complete
- Just met with the mayors of the surrounding communities. Next will meet with the staff judge advocates.
  - The surrounding communities want to be inclusive of Fort Knox
    - Let LTG Freakley's staff know if there is anything you want or need from the communities
  - The Mayor of Louisville is hiring a military liaison
- o Red Cross Blood Drive
  - Goal is to double or triple the participation from the last Blood drive
- Working on improving PX/Commissary
- o Update from 3-1 in Afghanistan
  - One Soldier was killed and others were injured in a recent IED attack.
  - Partnering with the Afghan people and working with the Afghan Army

#### COL Schwartz

- Next CIE will be 26 April
  - The focus will be on transforming Fort Knox
  - There will be a slide show of pictures of all of the upcoming changes
  - Fort Knox is currently 1 of 10 Installations going through a major transformation
  - an example is the relocation of the recycling plant far north in an new "industrial zone"
- o In May, the focus of the CIE will be on Summer Fun
- In August the CIE will be on buses
  - The buses will take everyone to see all of the new homes and neighborhoods on Fort Knox
- 8 March state wide tornado drill on and off-post
- o 25 March Dueling Pianos returns to Fiddlers
- o 16 April Thunder over Louisville
  - Largest Fireworks displays in the nation
  - Air show
    - Must book Hotel now if you plan to go and stay the night
- o 19 April next blood drive
- The 13 August concert will be Lynyrd Skynyrd and the Doobie Brothers
- o Gallotas Grill will be permanently closing on 1 March
  - Will become the Leaders Club South and will take overflow events from the leaders club
- o Bullion Bingo will also permanently close on 1 March
  - Bingo at other locations, like the Bowling center
  - SKIES will extend into the Bingo Hall
  - Fri and Sat Evening Teen Center at Bingo Hall
- Studying overall swim programs on Fort Knox
- o Potential of creating a women's only fitness center on post
  - will see if there is enough interest
- Looking in to opening Commissary for 4 hours on Mondays
- o In March the Library will be opening for Sunday hours
- o Lengthening the hours of the fitness centers beginning 10 April
- In June there will be a new building for School Age Services Before/after school programs
- WTB Facility still has 6-8 months until completion

- Construction on Wilson Rd will begin in late Summer
- o New and improved Fort Knox map will be ready by the end of the month

#### Director of ACS

- ACS is changing services to meet the needs of the new population
- Let ACS know what it is they need to be providing
- o AER 60% increase in AER assistance given out in past year

# New Financial Readiness Program Manager

- in contact w/ CDRs
- CDR referral program CDR can send Soldier over for less than \$1,000
  - more than \$2,500 has to be approved by Garrison
- Going in to FRGs to do budget training
- getting a lot of requests for retirement planning
- ACS does not just give money and send the Soldier on their way, they look at the problem

# Employment Readiness

- Surge in this program
  - 13,000 clients in 1 year
  - working with CPAC
  - 23 Fortune 500 companies that signed an agreement not to discriminate against military spouses
  - 14 local companies also signed the agreement and send job openings to the Employment Readiness Manager
- There is a CPAC office co-located within ACS

### Volunteer Programs

- Partnership with Vista, working with ACS to do volunteer recruitment
  - There will be a volunteer recruitment fair on 9 March
- b/c of the amount of people living off-post, there is interest in volunteer opportunities off-post
- VMIS trainings the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of every month in the evening.
- Fort Knox is the Pilot Program for giving volunteers Computer Access Cards (CAC)

#### Relocation

- Newcomers Orientation Changed in January
  - Once a month
  - Soldiers come in the morning, are served lunch and then attend an information fair after lunch

- Spouses who attend go on a bus tour of Fort Knox in the morning, have a picnic lunch at Camp Carlson ad meet back with their Soldiers after lunch for the info fair
- Do need people to register ahead of time. Last month 16 people registered, but only 3 came

### Information, Referral and Case Management

- Seeing young Families coming in with very complicated problems
- hired 2 new caseworkers to work complex cases
  - ex. recently had an abandoned Spouse
- once crisis is over, they will work on resiliency trg

## Family Advocacy Program

- Got state of KY to provide Child Protective Services on-post
- They have office space in the ACS building

## New Parent Support Group

- children from 0-3
- Partnered with CYS for a play group on Friday mornings at 1000-1130
  - Because of partnership with CYS, age range is more like 0-5
- Dad's are welcome
- Staff is on hand to work with children and parents
- also a parent to parent teacher from the Military Child Education Coalition

#### o **EFMP**

- New Boundless playground at Eastman Park
- received funds for passes to recreational events (bowling, zoo, etc)
  - go into ACS to ask for passes if you have Family member in the EFMP
- Special Olympics on 7 March, call 502-624-4076 for more info.

# Mobilization and Deployment

Creating a Level 2 FRG Leader Trg

# MFLC Program

Garrison now has the authority to move MFLCs where needed

### CARE Teams

- Consist of volunteers who are trained to go into a home and help immediately after the death/serious injury of a Family member
- 68 volunteers trained so far
- next trg 16 March, 0900-1230, call 502-624-3773 to register

#### School Liaison Officer

working with CYSS on understanding deployments for all school personnel

- On 30 Nov 11 182 school educators were trained
- North Hardin Christian was 1<sup>st</sup> to be trained
- Schools are very appreciative of these trainings as they want to help the military children in their schools
- have trained most highly impacted schools
- making their way to every school in area with military children

# o Resiliency Training for Family Members

- New training
- 3 new master resilience trainers
- Upcoming intensive trg for Senior Spouses on 22 &23 March 0900-1630
- Can only take 14 people at one time b/c the training is so intensive
- Trains Families how to bounce back after bad things happen
- Every ACS will have the new training and trainers
- ACS can also come out and train within the Units

### Fort Knox Spouses and Community Club

- o Gold Rush 30 April Wild West Event at Leaders Club
  - Silent and live auctions
    - Tim French donated a car
    - Lifetime donated a day on the set of Army Wives (at the Season Finale Taping)
  - Saloon Girls performing
  - Gaming (Black Jack and Texas Hold 'Em)
  - Need Volunteers for:
    - Dealers (Black Jack and Texas Hold 'Em)
    - Wooden horses to be decorated for auction (they race the night of Gold Rush)
    - Donating themed baskets for auction
  - All funds raised go to the community (scholarships, helping hands, etc)

### Red Cross

- o next blood Drive 19 April, 0800-1700, Sadowski Field House
- A hotline has been established for questions about whether or not you can donate
  - you may call 502-540-7163 or 502-609-7006 any time from 6am-2pm
- o Military Blood Services will also be there